



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

July 27, 2022

Dear Customer,

As part of our ongoing efforts to keep our customers informed, this letter is to inform you that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently lowered its interim lifetime Health Advisory Level (HAL) for two per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Specifically, the HAL for two specific PFAS compounds, PFOA and PFOS, was lowered from 70 parts per trillion (ppt) combined to 0.004 ppt for PFOA and 0.02 ppt for PFOS.

These human-made chemicals (PFAS) have been used in firefighting foam and other consumer products and can affect your health.

The City of Brighton recently tested for PFAS. The water sample results received on 09/03/2020 showed that certain PFAS chemicals, PFOA, PFOS, GenX, or PFBS, are present in the drinking water. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is working closely with the City of Brighton to understand and address this concern.

A number of other Colorado communities have identified PFAS above the new HALs in their drinking water. The CDPHE has stated "This is a concern, not a crisis. People do not need to stop drinking their water." Your drinking water meets current drinking water regulations, and the City is actively pursuing PFAS reduction strategies with CDPHE.

PFAS	Interim health advisory	The level in your water:	What this means:
PFOA	0.004 parts per trillion	5.4 parts per trillion	This is above the health advisory. Consider taking action to reduce your exposure.
PFOS	0.02 parts per trillion	9.3 part per trillion	This is above the health advisory. Consider taking action to reduce your exposure.

These health advisories are set to protect all people, including sensitive populations and life stages (such as infants), from negative health impacts as a result of lifetime exposure to PFAS in drinking water.

The current health advisories for PFOA and PFOS are based on human studies in populations exposed to these chemicals. There is strong evidence that PFOA and PFOS:

- Impact the immune system.
- Increase cholesterol.
- Decrease infant birth weight.
- Cause changes in liver function.

There is moderate evidence that PFAS are associated with:

- Preeclampsia and high blood pressure during pregnancy.
- Effects on thyroid hormones.

There is also evidence that PFOA increases the risk of kidney and testicular cancer.

Children ages 0-5 years, and people who are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding are more susceptible to health impacts from these chemicals. Visit <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/pfas-health> for more information.

What actions should I consider? What does this mean?

- This is a concern, not a crisis. People do not need to stop drinking their water.
- The lower your exposure, the lower your risk. People who are concerned can:
 - Reduce exposure from drinking water by using water treated by an [in-home water treatment filter](#) that is certified to lower the levels of PFAS or by using bottled water that has been treated with reverse

osmosis for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. Use tap water for bathing, showering, brushing teeth, washing hands, watering yards, washing dishes, cleaning, and laundry.

Reduce exposure from other sources. Visit <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/pfas-health> to learn more.

- Boiling, freezing, or letting water stand does not reduce PFAS levels.
- If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. An information sheet, “Talking to Your Health Care Provider about PFAS,” is available at <https://bit.ly/PFAS-doctor>.

What is the City of Brighton doing to address the situation?

While this is not an emergency situation, CDPHE has asked impacted water systems to take actions to reduce the chemicals in drinking water. We are working to address this problem in coordination with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and will continue to provide information about this situation. The city’s new water treatment will feature granular activated carbon filters that will remove PFAS, while also improving water taste and odor. The plant broke ground on July 26, 2022. Additional PFAS information can be found at www.colorado.gov/cdphe/pfas. For more information, please contact Sam Mingo at 303-655-2102 or smingo@brightonco.gov. If you have questions about this information, you can also contact CO HELP at 303-389-1687 or 1-877-462-2911.

Sincerely,
Marc Johns
Interim Utilities Director

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, tenants, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in public places or by distributing copies by hand.